## B. AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Original) A method for managing an adapter attached to a Fibre Channel network, said method comprising:receiving a close request; and
setting the adapter to a quasi-open state in response to receiving the close request.

2. (Original) The method as described in Claim 1 wherein the setting further includes:
determining whether a link is in an open state between the adapter and the Fibre Channel network; and
maintaining the link in the open state.

3. (Original) The method as described in Claim 2 wherein the maintaining further includes not toggling a fiber optic light source included with the adapter.

4. (Original) The method as described in Claim 1 wherein the setting further includes maintaining a set of minimal resources.

5. (Original) The method as described in Claim 4 wherein the minimal resources include one or more resources selected from the group consisting of a skeleton driver, a skeleton interrupt handler, and synchronous extended link services.

6. (Original) The method as described in Claim 1 further comprising:
receiving a message from a device attached to the Fibre Channel network while in the quasi-open state; and
sending a reject message in response to the received message.

7. (Original) The method as described in Claim 1 wherein the setting further comprises:
releasing extended resources corresponding with the adapter.

8. (Original) The method as described in Claim 7 wherein the extended resources include one or more resources selected from the group consisting of SCSI structures, Fibre Channel command pool, Fibre Channel response pool, link event infrastructure, full-function interrupt handler, link statistics gatherer, and login device connections.

9. (Original) The method as described in Claim 1 wherein the setting further comprises
determining a current state of the adapter, the current state selected from the group consisting of open, closed, and quasi-open.

10. (Original) An information handling system comprising:
one or more processors;
a memory accessible by the processors;
a nonvolatile storage device accessible by the processors;
a Fibre Channel adapter operable to connect the information handling system to a Fibre Channel network; and
a Fibre Channel adapter program, the program including:
means for receiving a close request; and
means for setting the adapter to a quasi-open state in response to receiving the close request.

11. (Original) The information handling system as described in Claim 10 further comprising:
a link between the information handling system and the Fibre Channel network;

wherein the program further includes:
means for determining whether the link is in an open state; and
means for maintaining the link in the open state while setting the adapter in the quasi-open state.

12. (Original) The information handling system as described in Claim 11 further comprising:
an optic light source included with the adapter;
wherein the means for maintaining further includes not toggling the fiber optic light source.

13. (Original) The information handling system as described in Claim 10 wherein the means for setting further includes maintaining a set of minimal resources.

14. (Original) The information handling system as described in Claim 13 wherein the minimal resources include one or more resources selected from the group consisting of a skeleton driver, a skeleton interrupt handler, and synchronous extended link services.

15. (Original) The information handling system as described in Claim 14 further comprising:
a second memory accessible by the adapter,
wherein at least one of the minimal resources is stored in the second memory.

16. (Original) The information handling system as described in Claim 10 further comprising:
means for receiving a message from a device attached to the Fibre Channel network while in the quasi-open state; and

means for sending a reject message in response to the received message.

17. (Original) The information handling system as described in Claim 10 wherein the means for setting further comprises:

releasing extended resources corresponding with the adapter.

18. (Original) The information handling system as described in Claim 17 wherein the extended resources include one or more resources selected from the group consisting of SCSI structures, Fibre Channel command pool, Fibre Channel response pool, link event infrastructure, full-function interrupt handler, link statistics gatherer, and login device connections.

19. (Original) The information handling system as described in Claim 10 wherein the setting further comprises means for determining a current state of the adapter, the current state selected from the group consisting of open, closed, and quasi-open.

20. (Original) A computer program product for managing an adapter attached to a Fibre Channel network, said computer program product comprising:means for receiving a close request; and

means for setting the adapter to a quasi-open state in response to receiving the close request.

21. (Original) The computer program product as described in Claim 20 wherein the setting further includes:

means for determining whether a link is in an open state between the adapter and the Fibre Channel network; and

means for maintaining the link in the open state.

22. (Original) The computer program product as described in Claim 21 wherein the means for maintaining further includes means for not toggling a fiber optic light source included with the adapter.

23. (Original) The computer program product as described in Claim 20 wherein the means for setting further includes means for maintaining a set of minimal resources.

24. (Original) The computer program product as described in Claim 23 wherein the minimal resources include one or more resources selected from the group consisting of a skeleton driver, a skeleton interrupt handler, and synchronous extended link services.

25. (Original) The computer program product as described in Claim 24 further comprising:

means for receiving a message from a device attached to the Fibre Channel network while in the quasi-open state; and

means for sending a reject message in response to the received message.

26. (Original) The computer program product as described in Claim 20 wherein the means for setting further comprises:

means for releasing extended resources corresponding with the adapter.

27. (Original) The computer program product as described in Claim 20 wherein the setting further comprises determining a current state of the adapter, the current state selected from the group consisting of open, closed, and quasi-open.